



River Park Review

Vol. 7, No. 2

www.riverparksacramento.net
www.groups.yahoo.com/group/rpna

River Park Internet Web Site

RPNA launches new and improved neighborhood web site



New Design

Photos

Local
Businesses

Clubs

Athletic
Teams

A new River Park web site was unveiled on the Internet in early January. The new web site offers many improvements with enhanced features and a colorful slide show of River Park and its community activities.

The web site provides information on neighborhood clubs, youth athletic teams, shopping center businesses, Glen Hall Park and the American River and Neighborhood Watch safety tips.

Misplaced an old issue of the River Park Review? You can find all the 2006 issues and the current issue on the new web site.

The new web site is the work of Rebekah Tennis. She and her husband Matt are River Park residents. Re-

bekah has a Bachelor of Fine Arts in graphic design from Cal State University San Bernardino. When she and her husband moved to Sacramento she worked for a local design firm and later opened her own shop. Last summer she volunteered to design and engineer the River Park web site.

The River Park Neighborhood Association greatly appreciates the work Rebekah Tennis has done and thanks her for her excellent contribution to River Park.

The River Park web site can be accessed at: www.riverparksacramento.net. Rebekah Tennis can be reached at design@rebekahtennis.com.

UPCOMING RIVER PARK EVENTS

February 8

Mother's Club
New Year
Kick-off Party
New Mothers
Welcome

Information Call
325-8765

February 15

RPNA Meetings
Block Captains
6:30 p.m.
RPNA Board
7:30 p.m.
Geneva Room
Fremont Presbyterian
Church

February 21

River Park
Soccer Club
Annual Meeting
7 p.m.
Fremont Presbyterian
Church

Information Call
736-2008

March 10

Caleb Greenwood
Arts & Music
Benefit
Dinner
Dancing
Auction

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Harassed by Herons

One woman's tale

By Pamela Slater
Former RPNA Board Member

Holly Landwehr became a common sight last summer on Carlson Drive near Spilman Avenue. At least twice a day, she would don an oversized straw hat and pull on long, thick rubber gloves and begin the arduous task of scrubbing down her driveway, sidewalk and even the street outside of her home.

"It's almost too distressing to talk about," she said recently recalling the many months she shared her property with at least 100 Black-crowned Night Herons and smaller Snowy Egrets.

Ms. Landwehr had read the neighborhood notices about the large number of herons that arrived in March each year in many River Park trees. Her trees had been home to only one or two pair of herons that would hatch their fledglings and then fly away in the fall.

"We thought it was wonderful, and the fledglings were so cute. I remember I was fascinated that first summer," she said.

But last year her trees became prime real estate for herons and egrets and life on Carlson changed drastically. Ms. Landwehr had to park her car down the street because of the constant rain of bird droppings. The only way she could leave her house unscathed was with an umbrella.

Her house and nesting birds became a tourist attrac-

tion. People, captivated by the spectacle of the birds, would stand and watch. Other River Park residents, however, were repelled by the smell of the droppings. "The smell was unbearable," she said.

The birds brought their food home with them, and Ms. Landwehr found herself picking up pieces of regurgitated frogs, fish -- just a mangled menagerie of "little dead things."

Ms. Landwehr spent many sleepless nights because of the constant chattering and squawking of the birds. "Have you ever heard such a sound," she asks, "coming from a bird?"

But most heartbreaking, Ms. Landwehr said, were the dozens of young fledglings that fell out of nests and died of injury or starvation or were killed by predators. Many were rescued by a neighbor and taken to a shelter where they could be raised and released in the wild.

As much as she loves nature and birds, she said, she is going to have to make a stand this year and reclaim her house -- and her sanity. Her trees have been cleared of nests and trimmed to make them less attractive to the birds. But because herons return to their place of origin, she is going to have to be constantly alert to their attempts to move back home.

And that day, she said, may not be far off. By early January, she already has seen the telltale guano droppings on the sidewalk. "I'm just sick that they are coming this early."

If you have questions about discouraging night herons, contact Jeff Harris at cadence@surewest.net.

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The Caleb Greenwood K-8 School Parent Teacher Student Organization completed planting many large trees on campus in January. River Park residents, youth baseball and Councilmember Steve Cohn contributed over \$4000 towards this effort. The large grove of trees, pictured above, is at Callister and Betty.

Deter Car Break-ins Night Patrol can help

Billy Martinez, coordinator for Neighborhood Watch, is looking for volunteers to help with the River Park neighborhood night patrol. Volunteers patrol the neighborhood in two hour shifts. They work in pairs, use their own cars with two magnetic night patrol signs attached to the car doors. The simple presence of the patrol on neighborhood streets effectively deters crime. Volunteers do not confront anyone.

River Park email postings indicate a persistent and relatively high level of neighborhood car break-ins. Every month word is passed around via email about car break-ins. In most cases, the contents of the car are disturbed but nothing is taken from the car. Oftentimes the trunk is left open.

It's important that all car break-ins be reported to the police even if nothing has been stolen. Use the city's website for the easiest and fastest way to report these kinds of crime. Crime reported statistics help the police to better focus their efforts.

River Park Resident

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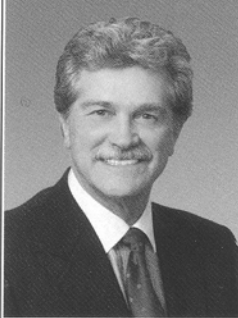
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In Brief:

Caleb Greenwood Benefit Event

Step back in time to the 80's and Caleb Greenwood K-8 School's annual spring dinner and auction, 6 p.m., Saturday, March 10 at the Plumber's Hall.

This event, coordinated by Caleb Greenwood's Parent Teacher Student Organization, provides a good time to socialize and enjoy a delicious fajita dinner catered by Juan in a Million with dancing and live and silent auctions that benefit Caleb Greenwood's music and art programs.

Tickets, \$25 apiece, are available at the Caleb Greenwood school office. Caleb Greenwood alumni are invited to join in the festivities and support their alma mater. Alumni receive a discounted ticket price of \$20.

For more information about the event, call Caleb Greenwood's office at 916.277.6266.

Early Morning Workout

Paul Camerer opens his garage on Camellia Avenue for an early morning cycling workout every Monday and Thursday, 5:30 a.m. to 6:30 a.m.

Paul calls this the Pinkhouse Gym and he provides a free wind-trainer for your bike along with bottled water, towels, music, and a ride leader. Paul and the other riders enjoy the workout and encourage new riders to join them.

Bring your bike. It can be attached to a stationary wind-trainer and off you go in comfort with a congenial and fun workout group. Even if you aren't going to ride, Paul suggests you stop by and visit.

Paul's Pinkhouse Gym is at 5904 Camellia Avenue. For additional information, call 452-7771.

RPNA Memberships

More than 500 households have responded by joining the RPNA, over \$500 in additional donations have been collected, more than 110 households signed up for e-mail bulletins, and four dozen households have been added to the yahoo groups list serve. Membership is \$10 a year and helps support RPNA community activities and improvement projects.

Night Heron Information

River Park homeowners with night heron nests remaining in their trees are encouraged to have them removed before the annual return of the herons.

Normally they return to our area in late February, however, two adult pairs recently were seen at Spilman and Carlson. The unseasonably warm winter might make for an early nesting season.

Many nests have been seen along the American River Parkway, and it is hoped the herons will prefer those river areas for their rookery. The birds that nested outside River Park last year will most likely return to those same river nests this season.

It is likely that River Park will have fewer birds to contend with in 2007 but neighborhood efforts to discourage the birds need to continue. Volunteers will be needed this spring to help in discouraging heron nests in River Park. If you can help, please email Jeff Harris at cadence@surewest.net.

New Mothers Welcome

The River Park Mothers' Club will host its 2007 Kick Off Party and welcome of New Members at 7 p.m., Thursday, February 8th. They will have desserts and drinks, and review of upcoming 2007 events and activities. The Mothers' Club cordially invites River Park mothers to meet other moms in the community -- please join them for this fun evening.

Artists Needed

The River Park Artists Group meets at the Javalicious Café to discuss projects, techniques and share ideas. The group is informal and casual and doesn't have a set meeting schedule.

If you think you might be interested in the group, call Loana at Javalicious, 736-1215, for information. The group is considering a possible collaboration on a booth for the May 12 Arts In River Park event.

Lost Watch?

A watch was found in the street on Moddison near Erlewine Circle, on the morning of December 29. Call Al Lewis at 456-8508.



2007 RPNA Contacts/Membership information



RPNA membership is on a calendar year. If you would like to check or renew your membership, call Alanna Butterwork at 457-6445 or e-mail alannab@surewest.net If you would like to become a member, send \$10 (per household) to RPNA, PO Box 19866, Sacramento, CA 95819. Make check payable to RPNA.

NAME	ASSOCIATION	PHONE	E-MAIL ADDRESS
Matt Mitchell	RPNA President	736-2029	president@riverparksacramento.net
Billy & Eve Martinez	Block Captain Coordinators	457-7725	rvrpk3@surewest.net
Alanna Butterworth	RPNA Membership	457-6445	alannab@surewest.net
Dan Keller	Newsletter Editor	457-5928	dak@surewest.net

To submit an article to the River Park Review, please e-mail information to publisher@riverparksacramento.net. The River Park Review is published by the RPNA, which is responsible for its content. It reserves the right to edit and/or reject submissions.

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